

New Mexico – In response to a [recent Deming Headlight report](#) on New Mexico veteran headstones at Mountain View Cemetery being targeted by vandals, Harry Teague issued this statement:

“Our first priority needs to be to make this right for our veterans and their families, and my office is already working with Deming officials, local veterans organizations, and the Department of Veterans Affairs to replace the headstones that have been damaged at Mountain View Cemetery. What these criminals did goes beyond just property damage – they harmed the resting place and the legacy of people I consider to be American heroes. Our veterans should be honored and remembered with dignity and I commend the Deming police department for stepping up their efforts to catch those responsible for damaging and defacing the headstones of New Mexico veterans. Once they’re caught, these criminals must be prosecuted to the maximum extent possible under the law.”

Harry Teague, who has made veterans issues a top priority, is currently in contact with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and local organizations to ensure that the replacement process is expedited. Once all the details of the damages done to the headstones have been confirmed and the necessary paperwork submitted, the VA will work with Teague’s office to provide new headstones to replace the damaged markers.

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